
Chapter 26 EMERGENCY SERVICES*

*Cross references: Businesses, ch. 14; emergency management, ch. 22.

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On March 13, 2012, the County Board adopted ordinance revisions to codify Resolution No. 39-11, which restructured the County Board committees, boards, and commissions in anticipation of the downsizing of the County Board from 29 to 15 supervisors. Not all ordinance subsections were revised, but those subsections that had material changes will be specifically designated at the end of those subsections.

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Secs. 26-1--26-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. E 911**Sec. 26-31. Authority.**

This article is enacted under the authority granted in Wis. Stats. §§ 146.70 and 59.54.

(Code 1980, § 9.02)

Sec. 26-32. Purpose.

This article is enacted for the purpose of creating the county telecommunications to provide emergency services dispatch and emergency telephone system which can be accessed within the scope of this article by dialing the numbers 911 and a rural roadway and address numbering system.

(Code 1980, § 9.03)

Sec. 26-33. Scope.

The E 911 system and dispatch shall be in effect throughout the county, including all towns, villages and cities, except that portion of the City of Eau Claire located in Chippewa County and the City of Chippewa Falls.

(Code 1980, § 9.04)

Sec. 26-34. Table of organization.

The table of organization on file in the clerk's office is made a part of this article.

(Code 1980, § 9.05)

Sec. 26-35. Administration.

- (a) *Generally.* Administration of the county telecommunications and dispatch shall be governed by the legal and law enforcement committee. The sheriff shall provide supervision and direction to the telecommunications director and staff.
- (b) *Selection of telecommunications lieutenant.* The county telecommunications and dispatch shall be directed by a telecommunications lieutenant selected by the sheriff from the staff of the sheriff's department. The lieutenant shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff.
- (c) *Duties of telecommunications lieutenant.* The lieutenant shall supervise and direct all telecommunication and dispatch and the automatic identification location number with the job description on file in the clerk's office and made a part of this article. The job description may be modified by the sheriff with the approval of the legal and law enforcement committee.
- (d) *Supervisors.* The lieutenant may designate certain dispatchers to serve as supervisors in the operation of the telecommunication and dispatch system.
- (e) *Budget.* The telecommunications and dispatch shall be maintained as a separate line item in the sheriff's department budget.

(Code 1980, § 9.06) (Ord. No. 07-12, 03-12-2012)

Sec. 26-36. Policies and procedures board.

- (a) *Authority and duties.* The policies and procedures board shall promulgate uniform emergency call-out procedures for communications outside the incident grounds. The policies and procedures board shall also serve as a forum by which public safety entities within the county provide technical expertise in the system's function.
- (b) *Membership.* The policies and procedures board shall consist of members as follows:
- (1) Two representatives of county fire departments selected by fire chiefs.
 - (2) Two representatives of county emergency medical services (EMS) selected by emergency medical services directors.
 - (3) One representative of the county police departments selected by chiefs of police.
 - (4) County sheriff or designee.
 - (5) County emergency management director.
 - (6) A representative of the City of Chippewa Falls Police and Fire Commission appointed by the Mayor.
 - (7) County Telecommunications Lieutenant.
- (c) *Term of office.* The sheriff or designee, the emergency management director, the Chippewa Falls Police and Fire Commission representative, and the County Telecommunications Lieutenant shall be permanent members of the policies and procedures board. One of the representatives for the fire department and emergency medical services shall initially be appointed for one year and the other representatives shall be appointed for two years. Thereafter, all appointments shall be for two years. No selected member of the policies and procedures board shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
- (d) *Procedures.* The policies and procedures board may elect officers, schedule meetings and adopt bylaws to perform its functions as it deems appropriate.
- (e) *Compensation.* Service on the policies and procedures board is voluntary and is not to be compensated. Expenses and/or mileage may be authorized by the legal and law enforcement committee and budgeted through telecommunications.

(Code 1980, § 9.07) (Ord. No. 5-08, 9-9-2008, Ord. No. 7-12, 3-13-2012, Ord. No. 24-12, 1-8-2013)

Sec. 26-37. Definitions.

As used in this article, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning indicated.

- (1) *Automatic location identification* has the meaning set forth in Wis. Stats. § 146.70(1)(a).

- (2) *Automatic number identification* has the meaning set forth in Wis. Stats. § 146.70(1)(b).
- (3) *911 emergency telephone system or systems* means a sophisticated and enhanced system as defined in Wis. Stats. § 146.70(1)(i).
- (4) *PSC* means the public service commission of the state.
- (5) *Public safety answering point* has the meaning set forth in Wis. Stats. §146.70(1)(gm), and in this article, refers to the public safety answering point operated by the county.
- (6) *Service supplier* means the telecommunications utility which directly contracts with the county to provide the 911 emergency telephone system to county residents. The service supplier may have a contractual relationship with other telecommunications utilities serving the county's 911 emergency telephone system area and to the extent permitted by law, such other telecommunications utilities are included within the term "service supplier" as used in this article.
- (7) *Telecommunications utility* has the meaning set forth in Wis. Stats. § 196.01(5).

(Code 1980, § 9.08)

Cross references: Definitions generally, § 1-3.

Sec. 26-38. Construction of chapter.

This article shall be construed to be consistent with Wis. Stats. § 146.70 and acts amendatory thereto. In the event of any conflict of any part of this article with Wis. Stats. § 146.70, the remainder of this article shall not be affected thereby and to that extent all sections of this article are declared to be severable.

(Code 1980, § 9.09)

Sec. 26-39. Plan of operation.

There is created in the county a 911 emergency telephone system with a public safety answering point. The system shall be partially funded through a surcharge on the telephone bills of the users of such system as permitted by Wis. Stats. § 146.70(3). The service supplier shall provide the essential components of such a system, including arrangements with other telecommunications utilities to allow the system to be functional throughout the county.

(Code 1980, § 9.10)

Sec. 26-40. City of Chippewa Falls.

The City of Chippewa Falls shall provide its own safety answering point and shall be solely responsible to route all calls for residents of the City of Chippewa Falls to the responsible public safety entity. The City of Chippewa Falls shall be solely responsible for acquisition and maintenance costs of all equipment and persons related to its system and the calls originating from within the City of Chippewa Falls.

(Code 1980, § 9.11)

Sec. 26-41. Emergency network and universal number service; installation of equipment.

The service supplier shall install and maintain a 911 emergency telephone system and provide a universal central office number 911 for the use as the county's public safety answering point engaged in assisting local governments within the 911 emergency telephone system area in protecting the safety and property of the general public. The system shall operate so that, when the number 911 is dialed, it will provide the 911 system features described in section 26-44 to all access lines served by central offices in the county.

(Code 1980, § 9.12)

Sec. 26-42. Provision of emergency network and universal number service; 24 hour per day availability.

The features offered under the 911 system shall be available 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

(Code 1980, § 9.13)

Sec. 26-43. Application of tariff.

The service supplier's provision of the services contemplated in this article shall be governed by its tariff.

(Code 1980, § 9.14)

Sec. 26-44. Network features.

The 911 system shall have the following features: (i) automatic number identification (ANI) and (ii) automatic location identification (ALI).

(Code 1980, § 9.15)

Sec. 26-45. System costs.

- (a) *Assessed against users.* The service supplier shall bill its customers within the county in amounts sufficient to recover its nonrecurring and recurring charges, as provided for in Wis. Stats. § 146.70(3), and in the manner allowed by PSC rules, regulations and tariffs.
- (b) *User charges.* The service supplier is authorized to asses charges to telephone lines located in the county, except that no charges are authorized against telephone lines of the state, as may be set by County Board resolution or at such rate as may be authorized from time to time by the public service commission. Two separate charges are authorized. Nonrecurring charges shall be for an amount for a fixed period of months. Recurring charges will be a continuing monthly charge per telephone line.

(Code 1980, § 9.16)

Sec. 26-46. Liability of service supplier to third parties.

This article is not intended to, nor shall it be construed to, create, amend, abridge, modify or in any other way affect any obligation or liability of the service supplier, by way of civil action or otherwise, to third parties, including members of the public, for injuries, death or loss to persons or property resulting from its acts or omissions or for its supplier's acts or omissions under this article.

(Code 1980, § 9.17)

Sec. 26-47. Service area boundaries.

Each municipality shall identify the emergency service provider for each type of emergency service within their respective jurisdiction and shall file such identification with the county telecommunication center. While municipalities may utilize differing services, the boundaries of service areas shall be contiguous. Emergency service providers shall not serve persons or properties beyond their identified service boundary except through mutual aid. Changes or modifications to the boundaries may be implemented on an annual basis only effective January 1 of the ensuing year.

(Code 1980, § 9.18)

Sec. 26-48. County services.

The county shall provide the ongoing dispatch services for the 911 system as part of its general dispatch operation for all units. No charge shall be made to the municipalities of the county for such dispatch.

(Code 1980, § 9.19)

Sec. 26-49. Development duties and costs.

The county shall be solely responsible for the following:

- (1) Negotiating service contracts with telecommunications utilities.
- (2) Negotiation and acquisition of computer software and dispatch equipment.
- (3) Grid mapping.
- (4) Negotiating contracts for signage.
- (5) Employment costs for telecommunications director and staff.
- (6) Providing space and equipment.

(Code 1980, § 9.20)

Sec. 26-50. Service contracts.

The sheriff is authorized to negotiate service contracts with telecommunications utilities and other service providers. All service contracts shall be reviewed by the legal and law enforcement committee and approved by the County Board.

(Code 1980, § 9.21) (Ord. No. 07-12, 03-12-2012)

Sec. 26-51. Public safety answering point.

The public safety answering point shall be the county telecommunications center for all calls originating from within the county except the City of Chippewa Falls and that part of the City of Eau Claire within the county.

(Code 1980, § 9.22)

Sec. 26-52. Rural numbering system.

Pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 59.54(4), a rural numbering and address system throughout the nonincorporated areas of the county is authorized. Each rural roadway shall be assigned a grid number. Each property located on such roadway shall be assigned a site identification number.

(Code 1980, § 9.23)

Sec. 26-53. Signage.

- (a) *Uniform number assignment.* The Emergency Management Department shall maintain the public safety mapping and numbering system for the county, make the assignment of numbers to all existing roadways and improved properties and assign roadway grid numbers and site identification numbers. All roadways created by plat, certified survey, or otherwise, shall conform to the grid numbering system. All parcels of land upon which a structure is to be built or improvements made shall be assigned a site identification number. No building permits shall be issued for a property without first securing a site identification number.
- (b) *Site identification number.*
- (1) *Procedure.* Prior to excavation, construction or erection of any improvement to land not already assigned a site identification number, the owner thereof shall submit a completed driveway access permit and registration of land use intent to the county zoning office for review. No excavation, construction or erection shall commence until the property owner receives all permits required by the county. The driveway access and land use intent form is submitted to the Planning and Zoning Department. An address number is then assigned by the 911 database manager. A copy of the driveway access and land use permit, with the number assigned thereon, shall be forwarded to the town clerk in which the property is located, and the applicant. The county shall determine the placement of the sign. The signs shall not be moved except with consent of the county.
 - (2) *Specifications.* The color and size of the site identification signs in the county shall be uniform double-sided reflective four-inch lettering on a red background installed on fiberglass posts by the designated county staff.
 - (3) *Cost.* The cost of site identification number assignments, sign installation and maintenance thereafter shall be the responsibility of the property owner. Applicants for a site identification number shall pay a fee as established by County Board resolution.

Payment is to be made to the county Planning and Zoning Department at the time of application for an address identification number. The required fee is to pay the cost of number assignment, records management and sign installation. Applications for site numbers on State and County Trunk Highways shall require an additional fee payable to the Chippewa County Highway Department for driveway access assessment.

(4) *Mobile home and recreational vehicle park.*

- a. The owners of all mobile home and recreational vehicle parks within the county shall be required to sequentially number each unit located therein. The numbers shall be a minimum of three inches in height and of any color. The signs shall be uniformly placed in a location identifying each unit clearly visible from the access road year round. An updated plot plan shall be submitted annually with the mobile park license renewal.
- b. Penalty. The owner of any mobile home or recreational vehicle park found guilty of not complying with subsection (b)(4)a of this section may be required to forfeit not less than \$50.00 plus the court costs and assessments. Each day of violation is a separate offense.

(5) *Obsolete numbering systems.* The town board of each county town shall be responsible to cause removal of all obsolete metal fire numbers from properties within their jurisdiction. The land records department shall replace any site identification signs that may become obsolete thereafter.

(c) *Roadway grid signs.*

- (1) *Specifications.* The roadway grid designation signs required on all roadways within the county shall be white letters on a green background in accordance with specifications determined by the county. A local unit of government may opt to add a road name to the grid designation. Where no road name is included, the sign shall be six inches in width with four-inch lettering. Where local option permits a road name, the sign shall be nine inches in width with four-inch lettering for roadway grid designation and two-inch letters for road name.
- (2) *Cost.* Each town in the county shall pay for the cost of the initial signs, the erection, maintenance and replacement for all signs within their respective town except the county shall pay for the cost of the initial signs and their erection for signs identifying roadways of the county and state highway system. Where the sign contains both a town road and a county or state highway, the county shall provide the initial signs and erection thereof. Subsequent maintenance and replacement of all roadway signs shall be the obligation of the town wherein the signs are located. The town shall have ten working days to secure and erect replacement signs. In the event the town should not do so, the county highway department shall install the roadway sign and bill the cost of the sign and its erection to the town. The town shall pay the county within 30 days of receipt of billing.

(Code 1980, § 9.24) (Ord. No. 07-12, 03-12-2012)

Sec. 26-54. Enforcement.(a) *Property owners.*

- (1) *Responsibilities.* The owner of each parcel of land having been assigned a site identification number is responsible for the continued erection and maintenance of such sign. No property owner may, without the consent of the designated county official, move the sign or permit visual obstruction thereof. In the event of damage or removal, the property owner is responsible to replace the sign within ten days of notice by a town or the designated county official.
- (2) *Penalty.* Any property owner failing to replace a damaged or removed sign or remove the visible obstruction thereto within ten days of notice by a town or the county designed official shall forfeit the sum of \$50.00 plus court costs and assessments.

(b) *Signs.*

- (1) *Prohibition.* No person shall damage, remove or obstruct from visual sight, any site identification or roadway sign.
- (2) *Penalty.*
 - a. *Forfeiture.* Any person found guilty of subsection (b)(1) of this section shall forfeit the sum of \$50.00 plus court costs and assessments.
 - b. *Cost of sign replacement.* In addition to the forfeiture described in subsection (2)a of this section, any person found guilty of subsection (b)(1) of this section shall be required to pay the cost of the sign repair and/or replacement.

(Code 1980, § 9.25)

Secs. 26-55--26-80. Reserved.